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31 OCT 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Hammerman

SUBJECT : Status of Support Services Historical Program

1. We are not seriously behind schedule in our Historical Program. On the whole I believe that we are making better progress than the programs in the DDI and the DDS&T.

2. We have some strong areas and some weak spots. The Offices of Logistics, Communications, Personnel, and Finance are making very definite progress. They have a number of individuals engaged in part-time research and writing, and their reports indicate that we may expect some completed monographs from each of these Offices very shortly. On the other hand, officers of the Office of Security have been so involved in day to day work load that they have not been able to make the progress that they had hoped for. [REDACTED] has recently been named as the Historical Officer, replacing [REDACTED] and I hope that he can be more successful in pushing individual writers and in identifying a retiree who might be engaged under contract as a full-time worker. Medical Services reports progress only in papers being written by the Psychiatric Staff; again the work load is interfering with the accomplishment of progress in other areas of the Office. [REDACTED] is the acting Historical Officer, replacing [REDACTED] and Bill is endeavoring to work out a more progressive solution to the program for the Medical Staff. In the Office of Training, [REDACTED] is hoping to divest himself of many routine responsibilities in order that he may devote a greater portion of his time to the Historical Program prior to his May 1968 retirement.

3. With the recent temporary assignment of an overseas returnee CT, Mr. [REDACTED] a start is being made on developing the thread of centralized executive direction to Support components dating from OSS days. Mr. [REDACTED] has been doing considerable research on the period 1945 to 1950 and should be able to get the history of the Office of the DD/S off to a fast start.

4. In summary, we are working on the trouble spots and should be able to report greater progress in these areas in the next few months. We are convinced by experience to date that the Support Offices in general are too tightly staffed to accomplish much research and writing as additional duty on the part of these senior personnel who are most conversant with historical subjects. It is for this reason that we are continually seeking personnel about

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to retire who have the ability to do the necessary research and composition to assist individual Offices with their program. Such full time contract help can also serve as a central focal point for conducting taped debriefings etc. of those senior officers who otherwise will not be able to find the time to commit their gems to paper.

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Chairman  
Support Services Historical Board

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